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SENATE BILL 1783 By
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HOUSE BILL 1712
By Buttry

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 19, Part 2, relative to orthopedic physician assistants.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-19-203(b), is amended by deleting the second sentence in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

The board and committee shall adopt regulations governing the supervising physician's personal review of historical, physical and therapeutic data contained in the charts of patients examined by the orthopedic physician assistant. These regulations shall impose requirements on the physicians who supervise physician assistants that are equivalent to the requirements imposed on physicians who supervise nurse practitioners.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-19-205, is amended by deleting subdivision (6) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(6)

(A) A supervising physician may delegate to an orthopedic physician assistant working under the physician's supervision the authority to prescribe drugs, in accordance with rules adopted by the board and committee. These rules shall not allow the orthopedic physician assistant to prescribe controlled

substances listed in Schedules I, II, III, IV, and V of Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 4. Any prescription written or signed by the orthopedic physician assistant shall be deemed to be that of the physician under whose supervision and control the orthopedic physician assistant is prescribing. The orthopedic physician assistant shall sign both the orthopedic physician assistant's own name and the supervising physician's name on each prescription so written.

(B) An orthopedic physician assistant, to whom the authority to prescribe and/or issue legend drugs has been delegated by the supervising physician, shall file notice with all appropriate boards and committees containing the name of the orthopedic physician assistant, the name of the licensed physician having supervision, control and responsibility for the prescriptive services rendered by the orthopedic physician assistant, and a copy of the formulary describing the categories of legend drugs to be prescribed or issued by the orthopedic physician assistant. The orthopedic physician assistant shall be responsible for updating this information. Any complaints against orthopedic physician assistants or supervising physicians shall be reported to the director of health-related boards, the committee on physician assistants, and the board of medical examiners as appropriate for investigation of improper prescriptive practices. Every prescription issued by an orthopedic physician assistant pursuant to this section shall be entered in the medical records of the patient and shall be written on a preprinted prescription bearing the name and address of the orthopedic physician assistant and the supervising physician.

(C) No drugs shall be prescribed or issued by an orthopedic physician assistant except under the supervision, control, and responsibility of the supervising physician; and

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.